'Application No. 10/086,274
Reply to Office Action of July 30, 2003

Amendments to and Listing of the Claims:

Please cancel claim 2 and amend claims 1 and 6 so that the claims read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the removal of specific compounds from an aqueous salt solution, comprising treating a compound-containing aqueous salt solution in a desalination membrane according to the dead-end principle to obtain a permeate and a concentrate, wherein no longitudinal flow with gas and/or liquid takes place over at the feed side of the membrane, reusing the obtained permeate, flushing the membrane, and discharging the concentrate obtained.

2. (Cancelled)

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- 3. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the desalination membrane is selected from the group consisting of nanofiltration membranes and reverse osmosis membranes.
- 4. (Original) The process according to claims 1, wherein the membrane structure is selected from the group consisting of tubular, capillary, hollow fiber, and helically wound.
- 5. (Original) The process according to claims 1, wherein the compound-containing aqueous salt solution is introduced at a feed side of the membrane module at a flux of 5-75 1/m²·hr, a feed pressure of 4-12 bars for 30-40 minutes, while the obtained permeate depleted of compound is discharged.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 6 5, wherein the flux is 15-25 1/ m²·hr and the feed pressure is approximately 8 bars in a dead-end filtration cycle of approximately 30 minutes.
- 7. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein prior to the treating step the aqueous salt solution contains approximately 2000 mg/l TOC, approximately 105 g/l Na⁺ and

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approximately 60 g/l C1⁻, while after the treating step the obtained permeate contains approximately 40 mg/l TOC, approximately 105 g/l Na⁺ and approximately 60 g/l C1⁻.

- 8. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the salt solution is a regenerate derived from water purification.
- 9. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the specific compounds are selected from the group consisting of organic compounds (TOC) and pesticides.
- 10. (Original) The process according to claim 9, wherein the TOC comprises humic acid.